

That great Conservative leader had said that he considered it right that such questions should be referred to a commission of Judges. The only stipulation he had made was that it must be done promptly. In fact the great leaders of both political parties were agreed on the principle of submitting questions like the present one to a Royal Commission. The leader of the Opposition was out of touch with his old leader, Sir John Macdonald. He was out of touch with Sir Charles Tupper; with his present leader, Mr. Borden, and he was in touch in some respects with Sir Richard Cartwright. What should we call him, a mugwump, or what?

Mr. Cameron concluded by saying that the hon. gentlemen of the Opposition should make their charges openly upon the floor of the House, and take some of the responsibility for settling the questions. They were invited, if they had anything to say or any charges to make, to do so now, so that they could proceed at the earliest possible moment with the proper business of the House.

Mr. Downey Sarcastic.

Mr. J. P. Downey (South Wellington), who followed, opened his remarks by stating that the gravity of the situation was his only excuse for craving the indulgence of the House. He expressed admiration for the spectacle presented by the Attorney-General in his recent speech. He had been astounded at what he termed the vehemence of the leader of the Opposition. In some respects the condemnation was merited. How dare the leader of the Opposition refuse to re-echo the glowing tribute to the loyalty and devotion, the honor and integrity of the hon. gentlemen opposite? How dare he not pass out a certificate of character to everyone charged with these terrible crimes? How dare he refuse to re-echo the glowing tributes of the mover and seconder of the address? Our blessings were said to be due to Providence and the Liberal Government. He was surprised that Providence was mentioned first. (Laughter.) The benevolence of hon. gentlemen had reached out and overflowed into Manitoulin, and the other day it flowed back to the floor of the House, and into the desk of the leader of the Opposition. (Applause.) He again charged that the Attorney-General had been guilty of favoritism toward the scoundrels who had been guilty of corruption in Ontario, and in support of this assertion he quoted from a recent issue of *The Globe* to the effect that political considerations which had weight in election cases had no part in the question as to whether the corruption in connection with the referendum should be prosecuted.

A Series of Blows.

To borrow from the style of the Premier's statement at Newmarket, what the people wanted from the Government was to act. The Government of Ontario had experienced a series of very severe blows, of which the most recent was the speech by Mr. Gamey. The first blow was when the truth came home that they sought to upset the wishes of the voters in South Oxford by furnishing the evidence of penitentiary, Central Prison and other convicts. The second blow came when the people understood the true inwardness of the negotiations in reference to the North York protest, when a Minister of the Crown put his name to a document and agreed to resign his seat, and at the same time the Premier and the Minister thought to create the impression that he had not resigned, and had no intention of resigning. A more serious blow was when the people found that the solemn agreement entered into by the Minister of Education, that no protest should be entered in Centre Bruce on condition that a protest was not entered against himself, was violated. The last blow, and the heaviest, was when Mr. Gamey made his charge against the Provincial Secretary. Mr. Downey next told a story of an Irishman who, getting into a fight, was getting the worst of it, and who, when getting many blows, was asked why he did not stop some of them, and replied, "I don't see any of them going by me." (Laughter.) Mr.

Downey thought the Premier could say the same of the blows which had fallen in Ontario for some time past. He enlarged upon the necessity of having a full and sweeping inquiry, and declared that the Government's plan was to burk the investigation.

Awaiting the Instructions.

Mr. T. H. Preston (South Brant) rose to continue the debate. Mr. Whitney, however, said that he thought no real progress could be made in the debate until the House was made aware of the terms of the commission. As this was St. Patrick's Day also, he thought it might be as well to adjourn the debate without holding a night session. He assured the Premier that there would be no delay consequent upon an adjournment at 6 o'clock, because part of the ground would likely have to be gone over again when they learned the terms of the commission.

The Premier acquiesced in the suggestion.

Mr. Whitney said that as soon as he saw the terms of the commission he would tell the House how much longer it would take to complete the debate.

Mr. Preston moved the adjournment at 6 o'clock, until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Questions by Members.

Mr. Eilber, on Friday next—What county or municipal councils (if any) in the Province have made application to receive their portions out of the consolidated revenue fund of the Province for the improvement of public highways, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in I. Edward VII., chap. 32? If any county or municipal Councils have made such application, has it been for the purpose of improving the public highways, or was it for the purchase of toll roads?

Does the Government intend to so amend the act at the present session in order that county Councils which have purchased toll roads in their counties before the passing of this act should be allowed to participate in the grant to recompense them for such expenditure?

What counties which have so far refused to pass by-laws in accordance with the act has the Commissioner of Highways visited for the purpose of advising them to participate in the share they would be entitled to under the said act?

The Canadian Gets It.

A decision has been given by Mr. Aubrey White, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, giving to Dr. Gilbert Gordon of Toronto, the iron lot, No. 7, Concession 3, Township of Hutton, which was claimed by C. C. Yerkes of Northville, Mich. The latter's claim, it will be remembered, was based on the statement that a Mr. Miller, presumably now one of the rival claimants, shot a bear up there three years ago, and the bear walked some distance and died on what was found to be an iron deposit. Dr. Gordon made an application for the lot, and afterwards Mr. Yerkes made a similar claim. "Under all the circumstances," Mr. White says, "in view of the fact that Dr. Gordon was the first applicant, his application must be accepted."

Applications for Bills.

The Municipal Council and the Waterworks Commission of St. Catharines will apply for power for the corporation to borrow \$40,000 for improvements to the waterworks and issue debentures therefor, payable in not more than 30 years from date and chargeable to the waterworks system. They will ask power also to tax the vacant or unused properties on streets served by the system such amounts as the Waterworks Commission shall deem fair and reasonable. Application will also be made for an act to repeal sections 13 to 34, inclusive, of chapter 49 of the statutes of 2nd Edward VII. and to re-enact the statutes repealed thereby.

Sizes of Committees.

The committee to appoint standing committees met Monday afternoon and determined the sizes of the vari-

ous committees. The Privileges and Elections Committee will have 41 members, 23 Government and 18 Opposition supporters. The Municipal Law, Private Bills and Railways Committees will each contain 60 members, 33 Government and 27 Opposition supporters. Agriculture and Colonization will have 51 members, 28 Government and 23 Opposition supporters. Standing Orders will have 38, Public Accounts 32 and Legal Bills 17 members. The committee adjourned, to meet at the call of the Chairman, the Attorney-General.

Liberals Are United.

It is understood that Premier Ross declines to accept the resignation of Hon. J. R. Stratton. It is contended that there is no constitutional or public reason why he should do so, as the accused Minister has denied the charges positively, and claims that he can vindicate himself fully before the commission. The refusal of the Opposition to give up the papers containing Mr. Gamey's charges, it is held, shows their dread of the investigation, and strengthens the position of the Minister and the Government.

The Liberals held a caucus yesterday afternoon just before the House met. Notwithstanding a premature report in an evening paper, the proceedings are understood to have been of the most unanimous character, the Government's supporters regarding the Premier's method of procedure in the Gamey case with the utmost satisfaction.

Notes.

The terms of the commission to be given the Judges who are to investigate the Gamey charges will, it is expected, be presented to the House this afternoon.

Col. Clarke has received fees for 58 of the private bills now on the list to come before the present session of the Legislature.

Mr. Jas. L. Hughes has asked the Government for a grant of \$50 a year to the Public School Cadet Battalion. A similar grant is made to the High School Cadet Corps.

By a typographical error in an item in yesterday's issue it was stated that Dr. Chamberlain's calculation showed the Provincial contribution to thirty-one charitable institutions in Toronto last year was \$5,203.25. The amount should have been \$85,203.25. This was contrasted with the city's grant of \$65,608.06 to twenty-seven institutions. There were 101 similar institutions in other parts of the Province, receiving Government aid amounting to \$117,003.05.